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ATKINSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE MAN SENTENCED DRUG DISTRIBUTION, MONEY LAUNDERING AND INSURANCE FRAUD

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration June W. Stansbury, Special Agent in Charge, Rebecca Sparkman, of the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division, Resident Agent in Charge, Mark Dragonetti, Food and Drug Administration, Office of Criminal Investigation, Acting Special Agent in Charge Matthew J. Etre of the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Special Agent in Charge, Kenneth W. Kaiser, of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Commissioner Roger Sevigny of the New Hampshire Insurance Department, Insurance Fraud Unit, announced that Robert S. Levine, age 60, of Atkinson, New Hampshire was sentenced in U.S. District Court today in connection with his involvement in the distribution of prescription drugs, money laundering and insurance fraud.

During a sentencing hearing before, U.S. District Judge Joseph A. DiClerico, Jr., Levine was sentenced to 60 months in prison and three years of probation upon release. The charges allege that between August, 2002 and June 2003, Levine distributed controlled and prescription drugs, clonazapam, valium, viagra, lipitor, and morphine to an informant. During and subsequent to the drug transactions Levine also met with an undercover investigator and conducted seven separate money laundering transactions totaling over \$500,000 between March, 2003 and January, 2004. During the course of the investigation, evidence of Levine's extensive insurance fraud scheme was also uncovered.

Specifically, Levine participated in a suspicious automobile accident and then filed false claims on five separate disability policies administered by UnumProvident. Levine was able to collect over \$257,000 from UnumProvident. Levine also fraudulently billed over \$630,000 in health claims to the Prudential Corporation and was able to collect on over \$491,000 of the claims. Specifically, Levine did not disclose that he had another healthcare provider and would

reimbursed. Levine also submitted claims to Prudential for services which were not rendered by healthcare providers or were "upcoded" from the services actually provided.

Levine was ordered to pay restitution to UnumProvident and Prudential. In addition, Levine was ordered to forfeit assets worth approximately \$500,000. The Court also entered a money judgment against Levine in the amount of \$1,405,834.

United States Attorney Colantuono stated, "The successful prosecution of this individual, who constituted a one-man crime spree, was the product of an intensive investigation conducted by state and federal agencies and represents another fine example of cooperation in the enforcement of the laws of the United States."

The successful prosecution of this case resulted from the efforts of the DEA, IRS, FDA, FBI, Department of Homeland Security and the NH Insurance Department. This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Robert J. Veiga, Mark Irish and Rob Rabuck.